



# CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

---

## Department of Toxic Substances Control

---

T - 22 - 06  
For Immediate Release  
Friday, May 12, 2006

Contact: Carol Singleton  
916.255.6578  
Ron Baker  
916.324.3142

### **DTSC Receives \$3-Million Brownfields Grant from EPA**

Sacramento – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), in a coalition partnership with the City of Los Angeles and the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco, now has more resources to clean up blighted and contaminated areas in and around urban and rural areas of California thanks to a recent grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The \$3-million grant will be used to provide loans for the assessment and cleanup of brownfields, which are properties that are difficult to redevelop or reuse because of the presence or suspected presence of hazardous substances.

“California has an estimated 100,000 brownfields sites,” said DTSC Director Maureen Gorsen. “It is vital for public health and our economy that these sites be cleaned up and returned to productive use. This grant will allow us to provide resources to the most vulnerable communities to revitalize their neighborhoods and create jobs for thousands of Californians, a major focus of Governor Schwarzenegger’s administration.”

Among the communities targeted for these funds are San Francisco and Los Angeles, who partnered with DTSC in submitting the competitive grant request, and rural areas of the State that have been blighted by the closure of businesses and industries. Densely populated area such as San Francisco and Los Angeles are hit particularly hard by the closure of businesses and industries. When these properties are abandoned and not put back to productive use, the surrounding communities suffer. In many cases these are disadvantaged neighborhoods with large minority populations.

DTSC will use the \$3-million grant to provide loans and sub grants to these communities to support cleanup activities of contaminated sites as well as to implement community involvement programs.

The EPA’s Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, and safely clean up and sustainably reuse brownfields.

For more information, visit DTSC’s web site at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov) or the EPA Brownfields web site at [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

###

***The Department of Toxic Substances Control’s mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.***